

Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the settling of the western portion of the United States, and for other purposes.”.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate agree to the amendments of the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORIZING THE FOREST SERVICE TO CONVEY CERTAIN LANDS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4656, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4656) to authorize the Forest Service to convey certain lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin to the Washoe County School District for use as an elementary school site.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and, finally, any statements relating to either of these measures be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4656) was read the third time and passed.

JAMESTOWN 400TH COMMEMORATION COMMISSION ACT OF 2000

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4907, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4907) to establish the Jamestown 400th Commemoration Commission, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4907) was read the third time and passed.

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives on the bill (S. 1761).

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 1761) entitled “An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Reclamation, to conserve and enhance the water supplies of the Lower Rio Grande Valley”, do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Resources Conservation and Improvement Act of 2000”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMISSIONER.—The term “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner.

(3) STATE.—The term “State” means the Texas Water Development Board and any other authorized entity of the State of Texas.

(4) PROGRAM AREA.—The term “program area” means—

(A) the counties in the State of Texas in the Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Area known as Region “M” as designated by the Texas Water Development Board; and

(B) the counties of Hudspeth and El Paso, Texas.

SEC. 3. LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting pursuant to the Reclamation Act of 1902 (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388) and Acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, shall undertake a program in cooperation with the State, water users in the program area, and other non-Federal entities, to investigate and identify opportunities to improve the supply of water for the program area as provided in this Act. The program shall include the review of studies or planning reports (or both) prepared by any competent engineering entity for projects designed to conserve and transport raw water in the program area. As part of the program, the Secretary shall evaluate alternatives in the program area that could be used to improve water supplies, including the following:

(1) Lining irrigation canals.

(2) Increasing the use of pipelines, flow control structures, meters, and associated appurtenances of water supply facilities.

(b) PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.—Within 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the State, shall develop and publish criteria to determine which projects would qualify and have the highest priority for financing under this Act. Such criteria shall address, at a minimum—

(1) how the project relates to the near- and long-term water demands and supplies in the study area, including how the project would affect the need for development of new or expanded water supplies;

(2) the relative amount of water (acre feet) to be conserved pursuant to the project;

(3) whether the project would provide operational efficiency improvements or achieve water, energy, or economic savings (or any combination of the foregoing) at a rate of acre feet of water or kilowatt energy saved per dollar expended on the construction of the project; and

(4) if the project proponents have met the requirements specified in subsection (c).

(c) PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—A project sponsor seeking Federal funding under this program shall—

(1) provide a report, prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation or prepared by any competent engineering entity and reviewed by the Bureau of Reclamation, that includes, among other matters—

(A) the total estimated project cost;

(B) an analysis showing how the project would reduce, postpone, or eliminate development of new or expanded water supplies;

(C) a description of conservation measures to be taken pursuant to the project plans;

(D) the near- and long-term water demands and supplies in the study area; and

(E) engineering plans and designs that demonstrate that the project would provide operational efficiency improvements or achieve water, energy, or economic savings (or any combination of the foregoing) at a rate of acre feet of water or kilowatt energy saved per dollar expended on the construction of the project;

(2) provide a project plan, including a general map showing the location of the proposed physical features, conceptual engineering drawings of structures, and general standards for design; and

(3) sign a cost-sharing agreement with the Secretary that commits the non-Federal project sponsor to funding its proportionate share of the project's construction costs on an annual basis.

(d) FINANCIAL CAPABILITY.—Before providing funding for a project to the non-Federal project sponsor, the Secretary shall determine that the non-Federal project sponsor is financially capable of funding the project's non-Federal share of the project's costs.

(e) REVIEW PERIOD.—Within 1 year after the date a project is submitted to the Secretary for approval, the Secretary, subject to the availability of appropriations, shall determine whether the project meets the criteria established pursuant to this section.

(f) REPORT PREPARATION; REIMBURSEMENT.—Project sponsors may choose to contract with the Secretary to prepare the reports required under this section. All costs associated with the preparation of the reports by the Secretary shall be 50 percent reimbursable by the non-Federal sponsor.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$2,000,000.

SEC. 4. LOWER RIO GRANDE CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION.

(a) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.—If the Secretary determines that any of the following projects meet the review criteria and project requirements, as set forth in section 3, the Secretary may conduct or participate in funding engineering work, infrastructure construction, and improvements for the purpose of conserving and transporting raw water through that project:

(1) In the Hidalgo County, Texas Irrigation District #1, a pipeline project identified in the Melden & Hunt, Inc. engineering study dated July 6, 2000 as the Curry Main Pipeline Project.

(2) In the Cameron County, Texas La Feria Irrigation District #3, a distribution system improvement project identified by the 1993 engineering study by Sigler, Winston, Greenwood and Associates, Inc.

(3) In the Cameron County, Texas Irrigation District #2 canal rehabilitation and pumping plant replacement as identified as Job Number 48-05540-002 in a report by Turner Collie & Braden, Inc. dated August 12, 1998.

(4) In the Harlingen Irrigation District Cameron #1 Irrigation District a project of meter installation and canal lining as identified in a proposal submitted to the Texas Water Development Board dated April 28, 2000.

(b) CONSTRUCTION COST SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the costs of any construction carried out under, or with assistance provided under, this section shall be 50 percent. Not more than 40 percent of the costs of such an activity may be paid by the State. The remainder of the non-Federal share may include in-kind contributions of goods and services, and funds previously spent on feasibility and engineering studies.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section \$10,000,000.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate agree to the amendment of the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TIME ZONE FOR GUAM AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3756 which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3756) to establish a standard time zone for Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

There being objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3756) was read the third time and passed.

AMENDMENT TO TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate turn to the consideration of H.R. 207, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 207) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that physicians comparability allowances pay for retirement purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 207) was read the third time and passed.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF GWENDOLYN BROOKS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 393 introduced earlier today by Senator DURBIN and Senator FITZGERALD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 393) commemorating the life of Gwendolyn Brooks of Chicago, Illinois, poet laureate of Illinois since 1968.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action, and that any statements relating thereto be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 393) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution with its preamble reads as follows:

S. RES. 393

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was born in Topeka, Kansas, on June 7, 1917, and moved one month thereafter to the South Side of Chicago;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was educated in the Chicago public school system, graduating from Englewood High School in 1934;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was the author of over twenty works of poetry spanning 46 years;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks in 1950 became the first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for poetry with her publication, *Annie Allen*;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks was showered with numerous other accolades as a poet and artist, including a lifetime achievement award from the National Endowment for the Arts;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks has been poet laureate of Illinois since 1968, succeeding the late Carl Sandburg;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks leveraged her prestige as Illinois poet laureate to inspire young writers, establishing the Illinois Poet Laureate Awards in 1969 to encourage elementary and high school students to write;

Whereas Gwendolyn Brooks taught future poets and writers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the City College of New York, Columbia College of Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, Elmhurst College, and Chicago State University; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the life of Gwendolyn Brooks and celebrates the accomplishments she made not just to the State of Illinois, but to the entire United States of America as a poet and artist; and

(2) extends its deepest sympathies to her daughter Nora and son Henry.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 3549

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate receives from the House H.R. 3549 regarding the repeal of the modification of the installment method, the bill be read the third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table. I further ask consent that the above occur with no intervening action or debate, and I further ask consent this agreement be vitiated if the text is different than that which is now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the appointment that is at the desk appear separately in the RECORD as if made by the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 106-291, announces the appointment of the following individuals to the Advisory Committee on Forest Counties Payments: Tim Creal, of South Dakota; Doug Robertson, of Oregon.

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN DULY ENROLLED BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader or Senator ABRAHAM be authorized to sign all duly enrolled bills and resolutions following the sine die adjournment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the sine die adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President of the Senate pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, I have waited around this afternoon, this evening, to have an opportunity to direct a few comments to the Senator from Alaska. I say to my friend from Alaska, I remember about a year ago at this time the Senator from Alaska gave me as a token of recognition a Tasmanian devil tie.

Now, coming from Senator STEVENS, who has such a record in the Senate, that meant a lot to me. In celebration of our ending the session today, I wore this tie. I say this because in all sincerity it meant a lot to me when Senator STEVENS gave me this tie. You have been a role model for me since I came to Washington almost 20 years ago. You have a record that is unsurpassed for doing good things for your State as well as being an effective leader. I have served with the Senator from Alaska my entire time in the Senate on the Appropriations Committee, and I have admired the work done. I respected the tenacity shown, often for the people of the State of Alaska and other causes for which he believes.

I wish to publicly state how appreciative I am of this token, this honor the Senator gave me.

Mr. STEVENS. I am overwhelmed by that statement and my good friend. I noticed the Tasmanian devil tie. I enjoy those ties, and I hope the Senator enjoys his. I certainly enjoy our association.

I served as whip for 8 years. I know the distinguished Senator from Nevada